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RAMADA AND PICNIC AREA CONSTRUCTION TO BEGIN AT WESTERN AREA REGIONAL PARK

GLENDALE, Ariz. – The City Council approved the award of bid for construction of a ramada pavilion and picnic area amenities for the Western Area Regional Park, at last night's meeting.

Moving into phase three of the park's plan, this construction is focused in the southeast portion of the 81-acre regional park, located at 83rd Avenue and Bethany Home Road. The construction, about 10 acres total, will entail a large group ramada pavilion and picnic area that will accommodate approximately 750 people. The ramada pavilion design consists of 10 individual ramadas, complete with adjoining barbeque facilities. Also included within this project are several active recreation components, such as three lighted sand volleyball courts, a shaded themed playground and a tot lot. In addition to the active recreation components, the landscape plan includes xeriscape, with low-water-use indigenous plant material, seven acres of open turf and an information kiosk.

Currently, the park features two lighted basketball courts, public restrooms, parking lot, open turf area, splash pad, and a covered tot lot and playground area, which opened in 2004. In addition, the park includes the X Court, a dual-purpose skate and BMX court facility, which was completed in 2007.

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Western Area Regional Park Add 1.1.1

Not only will this phase of construction be an added benefit to the residents in the area, but it will complete part of the regional park's the construction will complete the link that connects the Western Area Regional Park to the adjacent Grand Canal Linear Park. The connection provides enhanced access from adjacent neighborhoods and community-wide access via a linked regional trail system.

As part of the 2002 Parks & Recreation Master Plan, public input identified another regional park comparable to Sahuaro Ranch Park as a priority. The public desired to have parks linked through greenways and trails, and develop more park land in the south and west region of the city.

Construction will begin late November, and the project is estimated to be complete in the spring of 2009.

For more information on the Western Area Regional Park and the Parks & Recreation Master Plan, visit www.glendaleaz.com/parksandrecreation.

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